

WASH 4, 1-330

9-300-10

Special Agent in Charge,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Reference is made to your letter of February 26, 1934, concerning the fingerprints of England Penryth, suspect, in connection with the aforementioned case.

You are advised that a review of this case has disclosed that no latent fingerprints of value were previously developed.

A review of the fingerprints of England Penryth through the same fingerprint files of the Bureau has disclosed the following results:

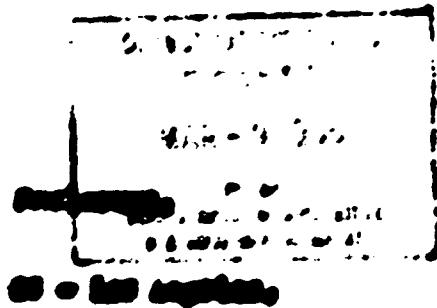
Subject as England A. Penryth, #78-200, United States Marshal, Fort Dodge, Iowa, arrested February 25, 1934, charge mail threatening letter.

Subject as England A. Penryth, #78-201, Police Department, Fort Dodge, Iowa, arrested February 25, 1934, charge mail threatening letter.

The duplicate fingerprint card for Penryth is returned herewith because as only one copy is needed for the Bureau's files.

Very truly yours,  
For the Director,

Harold L. Phillips,  
Assistant Director.



7 WJ  
P.D.  
C-1

March 2, 1938

9-3482 - 11

Special Agent in Charge,  
Los Angeles, California.

To: [REDACTED] b7C  
Clark Gable - Watson  
Entertainment.

Dear Sir:

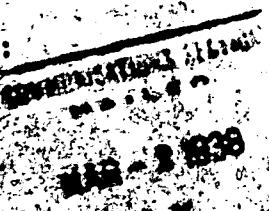
There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Bureau February 26, 1938.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Shover

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure:



EW  
RWS:39

RECORDED

MARCH 11, 1938

Special Agent in Charge,  
Los Angeles, California.

[REDACTED] b7C  
Clark Gable - Pictures  
Inclosure.

Dear Sir:

With reference to Laboratory Report # 21987 . in connection with the above entitled case, there are transmitted herewith photographic copies of the following specimens which your office submitted for examination:

#1 and #2.

COMMUNICANTS REGISTER  
MARCH 1938

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED  
FBI - LOS ANGELES

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Inclouers

# G-Men Arrest Farmer In Gable Extortion

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Bureau of Investigation announced last night it had taken into custody a man alleged to have written an extortion note to Clark Gable.

using the name of a woman neighbor against whom the man had a "grudge."

The bureau said Gaylord Porcelyn, 38 years old of Ponca, Iowa, was found to writing an extor-

tion note to the motion picture actor

paying payment of \$1,000 "to cover

your life or your future."

The note, the bureau said, was written over the signature of Alice Schraeder also of Ponca, but Porcelyn said she had no knowledge of the extortion plot and that he signed the name to the letter as a spite pro-

position as he had a grudge against

the movie star.

"We have no proof," the bureau added, "that she knew nothing whatsoever about the extortion letter."

The letter, the bureau said, was addressed to Gable at Hollywood, Calif. The letter was referred to as being open ended, the bureau said.

"Porcelyn would not admit," the bureau said, "that he had sufficient cause for threatening the money from Clark Gable in the event it was stolen by Alice Schraeder."

In investigation, the bureau said, showed that the woman is reportedly well known as a well-to-do beauty. Porcelyn has been employed as a farm laborer in the vicinity of Ponca, the bureau said.

The case will be presented to the United States attorney at Sioux City, Iowa, the bureau said, adding that meanwhile Porcelyn was held in the county jail at Ponca until trial date.

5x

Car

BELMONT LIAISON  
BELMONT, NEW JERSEY  
FEBRUARY 28, 1938  
SUBMITTED BY BELMONT DIVISION

9-3483-76

**He Tells  
G-Men Act When  
Star Reveals  
Threat**



**CAROLE LOMBARD**      **CLARK GABLE**  
"Send \$1,000 right away, and tell no one, or else..."  
That was part of a letter received by Clark Gable.  
Whether he told his current heart, Carole Lombard, is  
not known. However, Gable did tell G-men, who are hold-  
ing a suspect. International Photo.

**U. S. Jury to Act  
In Gable Threat**

Special to the New York Journal  
and American.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 24.—Federal officials today ordered representatives in Mason City, Ia., to take Grand Jury action against Gaylord Forsythe, 30, arrested for allegedly sending an extortion letter to Clark Gable, motion picture star.

Forsythe is said to have admitted to police that he wrote a threatening letter to Gable last Feb. 9. The message was signed with the name of "Alice Schi-  
vater," member of a prominent Iowa family, who had no knowledge of the threat.

"If you value your life or your  
future," the letter warned, "then  
send \$1,000 right away, and tell  
no one, or else—"

Clipping from  
NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL

DATE: FEB 25 1933

SEARCHED BY M. YOUNG 1933

b7c

q-348 v-10

## THREATENS GABLE TO IMPLICATE GIRL

### Fired Farm Hand Admits Sending Extortion Note.

MONDA, Iowa, Feb 28 (U.P.)—An unemployed farm worker admitted to Federal agents today that he sent a \$1,000 extortion note to Clark Gable to spite a young widow who had spurned his love.

Gaylor Forsyth, 30 years old, mailed the note to the movie actor two weeks ago, signing the name of Mrs. Alice Schmetter, 28, a farmer's daughter. He said he had had no plans for anything more than sending the letter.

"I did it for spite," he said. "She wouldn't pay any attention to me. Her father wouldn't let me on his place."

Forsyth was taken to the county jail at Ottumwa by Officer L. M. Chapman, chief of the Des Moines office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who has no criminal record, was trained through his handwriting.

Mrs. Schmetter told Chapman she had had "one or two" dates with Forsyth but had ignored him since.

Forsyth returned recently from Florida, where he had worked in the kitchen of a Miami night club.

Forsyth's arrest preserved Gable's record against would-be kidnappers. Two years ago, Mrs. Viola Wells Morton, an English woman, fled staff against him, claiming that he was the father of her daughter. Gable proved he had never been to England. Mrs. Morton was deported to Canada the same day.

b7C

Clipping from  
NEW YORK SUN

DATE: FEB 28 1938

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

739 Insurance Exchange Building  
Des Moines, Iowa  
February 26, 1938

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

To: GAYLORD MORRISON;  
CLARE GABLE - VICTIM.  
RETRIBUTION.

Dear Sir:

Kindly furnish the known criminal record of the following:

Name (inc. aliases)	City, Police Arrest, or Other Number.	Approximate date Fin- gerprints forwarded Federal Bureau of In- vestigation.	Fingerprint Classifica- tion.
[REDACTED]	P.O.S. Andover	Forwarded 2-29-38 to Technical Laboratory	

b7C

*desire*

*Reply*

9-14  
9-14

*SEARCHED*

9-3482-12

DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 2 1938 P. M.
L. E. CHIPMAN, D. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Special Agent in Charge, Des Moines
FILE

*SEARCHED*

*INDEXED*

*SERIALIZED*

*FILED*

SEARCHED  
FILED

7-3662-12

March 7, 1938.

FBI - DALLAS

Special Agent in Charge,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

Mr. GAYLORD POZZETTE,  
CLARK GABLE - Victim.  
Indicates.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication  
dated February 28, 1938, regarding the following:

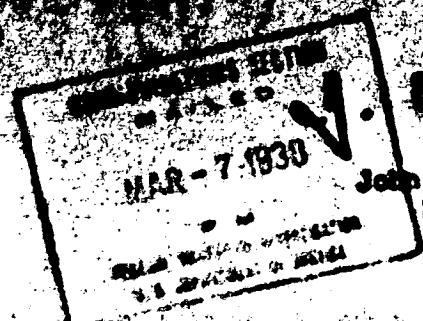
GAYLORD POZZETTE, Bureau Field Division,  
Des Moines, Iowa, A.

In reply thereto, please be advised that from  
the information furnished it has not been possible to  
locate any record in the fingerprint files of the Federal  
Bureau of Investigation.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Shover

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.



THE FREMONT-DETROIT  
Memphis, Tennessee,  
2-25-38

E  
on

b7c

**JUST FOR SPITE HE  
THREATENS CABLE**

By United Press  
TOKYO, Japan, Feb. 25.—A Japanese  
newspaper quoted from Tokyo sources  
as saying that former Emperor Hirohito  
had issued a decree ordering the  
Ministry of War to issue a cable  
to the Chinese government threatening  
a pretty strong reply if the  
Chinese would not withdraw  
from the League of Nations.  
The decree was signed by the  
Emperor, who said it was  
necessary to take such  
steps to prevent  
the Chinese  
from being  
isolated.

9-34878

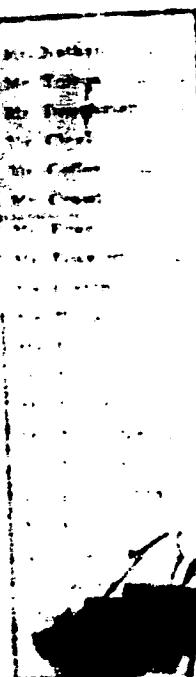
# Cable Threat Note Writer Arrested

Iowen Confesses He  
Sent Demand  
for \$1000

## INTERCEPTED

Clark Gable, motion picture star, was the intended victim of an extortion letter written to "Miss Iowa," demanding \$1000 or else, the federal Bureau of Investigation said closed last night.

The letter was sent



b7C

Q-348770

LOS ANGELES PLATEAU

FEB 25 1938

## Cable Extortioner Lays Threat Note To Love Tiff

DONNA, Iowa, Feb. 25.—A hasty, unemployed farm worker admitted to federal agents today that he sent a \$100 extortion note to screen star Clark Gable to "get" a pretty young widow who claimed his love.

Gable, 38, was vacationing at a resort hotel near the town of Donna, about 100 miles west of Des Moines. He was to leave Saturday morning for New Mexico, where he has been shooting scenes for "Giant," the new movie he is making.

The woman, Mrs. Mary Louise Johnson, 22, is the widow of a man who died last year.

She said she had received no threats.

She said she had been threatened by a man who was drunk when he came to her door.

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b7c

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
FEB 26 1938

9-3482-A

**Says he forged  
widow's name to  
false threat**

STONDA, Texas, Feb. 25.—A man who forged the name of a widow to a false threat against her husband was sentenced yesterday to 10 years in prison.

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
FEB 25 1938

9-3482P

## Man Held Over Extortion Note To Clark Gable

POCAHONTAS, Iowa Friday,  
Feb. 25 - (AP) - Gaylord Forsyth, 28-  
year-old farmhand, seized by fed-  
eral agents investigating a \$1,000  
extortion letter sent to Clark  
Gable, was held in jail today pending  
action by the United States  
attorneys.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
connected the Pocahontas, Iowa  
man wrote a note telling the movie  
picture star to pay \$1,000  
"if you value your life or your  
future."

The name of Mrs. Alice Schaeffer,  
a widow living with her parents near Pocahontas, was signed to the  
note. Both Forsyth and Miss  
Schaeffer and the letter have  
nothing about the note.

Forsyth, the bureau said, signed  
Miss Schaeffer's name out of spite  
because she had ignored his advances.  
There were no indications  
as to what place they have been  
used for conducting the money trans-  
action. "We don't know if he has  
had any contact with the bank,"

Forsyth was seized late yesterday  
at the home of his mother.

Seattle Times  
Seattle, Washington  
February 25, 1935

9-348270

**Put Fox's Name  
On Gable Thruway  
Man Tells F.B.I.**

A man who demands that his name be placed on the gable of the new highway between the Bronx and Brooklyn has been identified as James J. O'Farrell, 55, a retired Army lawyer who is a "judge" and a member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He was a member of the New York City Bar Association and was a former president of the Bronx County Bar Association.

## Agents Seize Farmhand In Gable Letter Threat

**They Link \$1,000 Demand to Writer's Unrequited Love**  
PICKERINGS, Iowa Feb 25 An  
Oakland, Pennsylvania, thirty-year-old  
farmhand seized by Federal agents  
investigating a \$1,000 extortion. Note  
written sent to Clark Gable, was held to  
trial today pending action by the  
United States District Attorney.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
announced the Pocahontas, Iowa man  
wrote a note telling the motion  
picture actor to pay \$1,000 "if you  
value your life or your future."

The name of Mrs. Alice Schmetter  
a widow living with her parents  
near Pocahontas was signed to the note.  
Both Porphy and Mrs. Schmetter  
said the letter knew nothing about  
the note.

Porphy, the bureau said, signed  
Mrs. Schmetter's name out of spite  
because she had ignored his advances.  
There were no indications as  
to what plans may have been made  
for obtaining the money from Mrs.  
Schmetter in the event Gable had  
not been detained.

Porphy was seized late yesterday  
at the home of his mother.

b7C

Clipping from  
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

DATE: FEB 27 1934

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

# Confesses He Put Woman's Name on Note

WASHINGTON, D. C. (UPI)—The federal bureau of investigation announced Thursday night it had taken into custody a man alleged to have written an extortion note to Clark Gable.

The man signed the name of a young woman neighbor against whom he had a "grudge."

The bureau said Gaylord Foryyth, 32, of Ponca, Ia., "threatened to writing" an extortion note to the motion picture actor, demanding payment of \$5,000 "if you value your life or your future."

The note, the bureau said, was written over the signature of Alice Schaeffer, also of Ponca.



Clark Gable.

Life threatened in letter.  
But Foryyth said she had no knowledge of the "grudge" and that he signed the name to the letter as a safe proposition.

The bureau stated, upon the information received, that the letter was addressed to Gable at Hollywood, Calif. The letter was received by the bureau by the actor, the bureau said.

"Foryyth could not admit," the bureau said, "that he had any plans for blackmailing the famous Clark Gable in the future, but he admitted to the bureau he had planned to do so."

The bureau said the woman in the letter was the woman he had threatened to kill.

## From Tribune:

Foryyth has been employed as a farm laborer in the vicinity of Ponca, the bureau said.

The case will be presented to the United States attorney at Mason City, Ia., the bureau said, adding that Foryyth is being held in the county jail at Pocahontas, Ia., 125 miles northwest of Des Moines.

## Love Betrayed Miss

Federal agents in Des Moines said Thursday night it was Foryyth's adoration of Miss Schaeffer which led indirectly to his arrest.

Some time ago, Miss Schaeffer received a letter from a stranger. The stranger explained that he noticed that her name was written

Gable—  
Concluded on Page Two.

# Gable

Continued From Page 1

on a dollar bill which he was given in change from a longer bill at a Sioux City, Ia., restaurant.

## Father of F.

Also on the bill were the initials "G. F." The stranger who wrote Miss Schaeffer explained he was writing merely to tell her about finding the bill with her name on it.

Miss Schaeffer told investigating agents about the "G. F." who soon identified as Gaylord Foryyth, former civilian conservation corps worker.

The Des Moines F.B.I. office said that Foryyth had fallen in love with Miss Schaeffer but that she had ignored him and that this forced him.

"And," said an agent in the Des Moines office, "we then found too many sensitive places."

## DENIES GUILT.

(The Register's Iowa News Service)

POCABONTAS, Ia.—Gaylord Foryyth, arrested Thursday afternoon at Ponca, Ia., in connection with an alleged extortion plot involving Clark Gable, the actor, denies he is guilty, according to Deputy C. W. Oberholzer of Pocahontas county.

"He said he didn't know anything about it. He acted surprised," Oberholzer said.

The arrest was made at the home of Foryyth's mother by Oberholzer and Federal Bureau of Investigation Agent O. G. Bell.

Foryyth is booked for investigation at the jail here.

The former farm youth just returned recently from Tampa, Fla., where he was a dishwasher, he told officers. He left Ponca several years ago.

C Men Say He Demanded \$1,000 of Film Idol—

# IOWAN HELD IN

## THREAT TO

# GABLE

City Inn, Des Moines, Ia., 215½

Des Moines News Division.

620

## Writer Of Threat To Gable Is Held.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Federal Bureau of Investigation said yesterday Thursday it had taken into custody a man alleged to have written an extortion note to Clark Gable, using the name of a woman neighbor against whom the star had a "grudge."

The Bureau said Gwendolyn Foreyeth of Bronx, N.Y., confessed to writing the extortion note to the movie star yesterday, demanding payment of \$1,000 if "you value your wife or your future."

# FARMER HELD FOR EXTORTION NOTE TO GABLE

Suspect Admits Letter to  
Spite Pretty Widow.  
Agents Say.

MUNDA ISLA, Fla., Feb. 28 (UPI) — A husky, unemployed farm worker confided to Federal agents today that he sent a \$1,000 extortion note to Clark Gable to spite a pretty young widow who spurned his love. George Porphy, 30, mailed the note to Mr. Gable two weeks ago, signing the name of Mrs. Alice Schreiber, 30, member of a suspected Irish family. He said he had no plans for doing anything more than sending the letter.

"I did it for spite," he said. "I fell in love with her but she wouldn't pay any attention to me. Her father wouldn't let me have her place."

C-B men slipped into this little community yesterday and arrested Porphy.

L. M. Chapman, chief of the Des Moines office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said Porphy, who had no criminal record, was traced through his handwriting.

Mrs. Schreiber, he said, knew nothing about the letter and little about Porphy's activities. She told Mr. Chapman she had "one or two" dates with Porphy a few years ago but had ignored him since then.

Porphy returned recently from Florida, where he had been employed in a Miami night club there.

Barely 100 feet long, Mrs. Schreiber said, Porphy's note was written on torn-off piece of paper, bearing her name. One of the bars bore the name of "Gable."

Chapman said Porphy denied writing the letter until confronted with the torn-off bar and specimen of his handwriting.

Porphy's only comment was the effect his attack would have on his mother and her neighbors. "I could," he said, "what will they think?"

Mrs. Porphy made no statement.

The farm worker's arrest followed after he wrote a \$1,000勒索信 to Clark Gable from Porphy's home address. The letter was received at the Hollywood studio of Metro-Goldwyn Mayer.

"If you value your life and your future then send me \$1,000 right away and tell no one else," it said.

The writer indicated that "her" father was hardpressed for money to maintain his farm and that "her" was going to get funds if "her" had to steal them.

Mr. Gable probably never saw the letter. Professional letter experts looked at it, then turned it over to studio officials who called up Federal agents.

b7c

RECEIVED

EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT

Clark Cable, the victim's attorney, received an extortion letter through the United States Mail at Ballymore, California, in which it demand one million dollars for the sum of \$1,000,000. The letter was postmarked Pocatello, Idaho, February 9, 1938, and was signed "Alice Hammerer." It contained the statement "if you value your life and your future then send us \$1,000 right away and tell no one or else." The writer of this letter indicates her father, who was a farmer, one time he said that she was going to get away from it and had to shoot the Mr. Cable and turned not to say anything concerning this matter and he was instructed to send the money to the writer of the letter at Route 1, Pocatello, Idaho.

This extortion letter was referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, at Los Angeles, California, and thereafter Special Agents of the Los Angeles, Idaho, Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were assigned to conduct an investigation in the vicinity of Pocatello.

Through investigation it was determined that one Gaylord Parry was a suspect suspect, and on the afternoon of February 24, 1938, a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation located Mr. Parry at Pocatello, Idaho. Upon interview he confessed to writing the extortion letter to Clark Cable, against the sum of \$1,000,000, which he had known for the past several years. Parry would not admit he had additional plans for obtaining the money in the event Clark Cable called the sum to Alice Hammerer, but stated Alice Hammerer did not have any knowledge concerning the extortion letter and that he did not have any knowledge concerning the intention to kill and a threat he gave to the letter as a spite proposition since he had a grudge against her. Investigation disclosed that Alice Hammerer is single and comes from a well-known family. She stated upon being approached and asked about the information about the extortion letter, she told Mr. Parry that she had nothing whatsoever about the extortion letter addressed to Clark Cable.

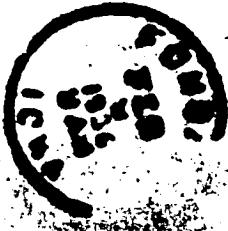
On February 25, 1938, an authorized complaint was filed against Parry before the United States Commissioner at Pocatello, Idaho, concerning the 19th violation of the Interstate Commerce Act, involving mail and the mailing system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Gaylord Parry is 30 years of age, single, a resident of Pocatello, Idaho, and has been employed as a farm laborer in the vicinity of Pocatello, Idaho.

21 AD-245

Bureau File No. 9-3422

Clark G. Dickey  
Hollywood  
California



9-348

739 Insurance Exchange Bldg.,  
Des Moines, Iowa.  
March 17, 1938.

Mr. William E. Tanforth,  
Asst. United States Attorney,  
Mason City, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Re: GAYLORD FORSTTH;  
CLARK HAMIL - Victim.  
EXTORTION.

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of  
March 15, 1938, requesting the presence of the Special  
Agent who investigated the above entitled case, at Cedar  
Rapids, on April 5, 1938, in connection with the presenta-  
tion of this case to the Grand Jury. Please be advised  
that arrangements are being made to have Special Agent  
[redacted], who investigated this case, available for the  
Grand Jury.

b7C  
Relative to our telephone conversation of  
this date, I am enclosing herewith a photostatic copy of  
the original extortion note, together with a photostatic  
copy of the envelope in which the extortion note was sent  
to the victim from Fonda, Iowa.

Very truly yours,

L. H. CHIPMAN  
Special Agent in Charge

LHC/mj  
9-34  
cc [redacted]  
[redacted]

RECORDED

on

9-3482-12X

MAR 29 1938

Outgoing  
[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following teletype message to:  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

67C

100-10000

100-10000

100-10000

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

THIS CASE CONCERNED AT Los Angeles, California.

OFFICE WHERE AT

Los Angeles.

DATE WHEN MADE

4/4/38

REPORT NO.

2/21/38  
3/13/38

SEARCHED BY

J. R. Farber

CHARACTER OF LETTER

R.I.C.

CAROLE FONSTIE;  
CLARK GABLE - Picture.

EXPLANATION.

SITUATION OR FACTS:

Instant letter handled at MGM Studio by [REDACTED]  
three employees [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED]

b7c

- P -

DETAILS:

Letter of Los Angeles office to Bureau  
2/21/38; report of Special Agent [REDACTED]  
Des Moines, Iowa, 2/26/38.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

After the receipt of the instant letter from [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studio at Culver City, California,  
it was ascertained in correspondence with [REDACTED] that the instant  
letter was handled by the following employees of MGM:  
[REDACTED]

b7c

In view of the developments in this case, the matter of  
obtaining fingerprints of other individuals is not being followed out. Of  
the above persons, [REDACTED] of the Fox Mail Department, received  
and opened the letter in question.

- INDEXED -

<i>Johnson</i>		SEARCHED INDEXED FILED	NO COPY MADE OR INDEX SPACED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 - Bureau</li> <li>2 - Des Moines (Iowa, Iowa City)</li> <li>3 - Los Angeles</li> <li>4 - Me. 1449</li> </ul>			APR 22 1938
			5 -

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

701 Insurance Building - Suite  
1200 - Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
April 21, 1938

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED]  
ADMINISTRATIVE

b7C Dear Sir:

Special Agent [REDACTED] arrived at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, at 9:00 A.M., of April 18, 1938, from the Aberdeen Field Division, on Grand Jury subpoena in the case entitled, "AYLOF OF CHAVITI; KAHAN ARK - VICTORY; EXTRADITION". His address is the Bontroue Hotel, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Very truly yours,

*D. M. Chapman*  
D. M. Chapman  
Special Agent in Charge

LME/mgs  
cc: Aberdeen

RECORDED

19-3486-14

APR 21 1938 A.M.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 09-12-2017 BY [redacted]

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

SEARCHED INDEXED  
4-23-38

SEARCHED INDEXED  
4-1-38

SEARCHED INDEXED

[redacted] JTC

APRIL 19, 1938;  
MURKIN - MURKIN

EXHIBITION

## SUMMARY OF FACTS

The facts of instant investigation were presented to a Federal Grand Jury at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and a "no bill" was returned by them on April 19, 1938. A disposition sheet is submitted.

- HDC -

## REFERENCE

Report of Special Agent [redacted]  
Des Moines, dated 2-26-38.

[redacted] b7C

## DETAILS:

AT CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

The facts of instant investigation were presented to the Federal Grand Jury at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in the Northern District of Iowa, and a "no bill" was returned by them on April 19, 1938. A disposition sheet is being submitted herewith. The Sheriff at Sacajawea, Iowa, was advised orally of the disposition of this case, when he appeared personally at the Cedar Rapids term of court.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

L.M. Chapman

SEARCHED INDEXED  
4-23-38

9- 3422-15 APR 28 1938

1 Bureau (Inc.) APR 27 1938  
2 Los Angeles  
1 USA Kansas City  
1 Des Moines

Mr. J. E.  
Director,  
Investigation,  
Federal  
Bureau of  
Investigation

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
710 Insurance Exchange Building  
Des Moines, Iowa  
(Name and Address of Comptroller)

April 23, 1938  
(Date)

Pear Sir:

Following are additional records in cases on which fingerprints have been mailed to the

Federal Bureau of Investigation:

Bureau File Number	Name, Aliases and Number Received	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
2745-3	England, Andrew	2/25/38	Extortion	
770-200 USA	Ft. Dodge, Ia.			4/19/38 "no bill"
13381	Dodge Co., Ia.	2/25/38	Extortion Fraud, injury Cedar Rapids, Ia.	

9

A  
-105

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Very truly yours,

J. V. [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge  
(Official Title)

For instructions see reverse side!

9-14

GAYLORD WORSTIN.

b7C

b7C

April 19, 1938, is indicated as the investigative period covered by the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated at Des Moines April 20, 1938. The report pertains to the presentation of the case to the Grand Jury and the Grand Jury's return "no bill" on the case. According to Agent [REDACTED] daily report for April 18, 1938, he conducted interviews on that date with reference to this case and presented it to the Grand Jury on the same date. It appears consequently that the period for which made is incorrect.

b7C

Mr. Chairman

The discrepancy above mentioned between Agent [REDACTED] daily report and his investigative report will be brought to his attention upon his return from Washington, D. C., with a view of correcting these discrepancies, so that the investigative reports submitted by him will cover all investigation that he performed on that case.

4-3472-

Report of Inspection  
[REDACTED]  
Des Moines, Iowa  
7-26-38

b7C

1

21a

CLARK GABLE.

IF YOU VALUE YOUR WIFE AND YOUR FUTURE, THEN SEND ME ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS RIGHT AWAY AND TELL NO ONE. OR ELSE! I AM DISGUIISING BY WRITING IN PRINTING. SO NOTHING CAN BE OBTAINED BY ~~ME~~ IT IS ANOTHER

ON HIS FARM. AND I'M GOING TO BET MONEY IF I HAVE TO STEAL IT. SAY NOTHING TO NO ONE OR ELSE!

ALICE SCHMETTER  
ROUTE ONE  
FAMDA, IOWA.

24422-16

LETTER 1  
6 GENERAL  
IOWA, IA  
DISGUISE  
RIGHT AWAY  
ONE THOUSAND  
DOLLARS  
BY PRINTING  
NOTHING  
CAN BE OBTAINED  
BY ~~ME~~ IT IS ANOTHER

DISGUISE  
CANNOT  
BE OBTAINED  
BY PRINTING

NO ONE  
CAN BE  
OBTAINED  
BY PRINTING

NO ONE  
CAN BE  
OBTAINED

NO ONE  
CAN BE  
OBTAINED

JAMES EARL HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

February 26, 1938

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Clark Gable, the motion picture actor, received an extortion letter through the United States mail at Hollywood, California, in which demands were made for the sum of \$10,000. The letter, postmarked Santa Barbara, February 6, 1938, was signed Alice Johnson and contained the statement "If you value your life and your family then send me \$10,000 demands. If you value your life and your family then send me \$10,000 demands right away and tell no one or else." The writer of this letter indicated that my brother was held up on his farm and that she was going to get him out of the house if he did not pay. Mr. Gable was warned not to say anything to the law and to conceal his true identity and was instructed to send the money to the writer of the letter at home by Friday, March 3, 1938.

This extortion letter was referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, at Los Angeles, California, and therefrom Special Agents of the San Francisco, San Joaquin, and Fresno offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were dispatched to conduct an investigation in the vicinity of Santa Barbara.

Initial investigation by the Anderson Field office disclosed through interview with Mrs. Alice Johnson, wife of the extortionist, that her husband, a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was engaged in work for the San Joaquin office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Her husband was engaged in work for the San Joaquin office, during the month of March, 1938, in the city of Santa Barbara, California, and that he had been engaged in work for the San Joaquin office since January 1, 1938. She further advised that her husband was engaged in work for the San Joaquin office, because he had a grudge against the San Joaquin office and that he was attempting to injure the San Joaquin office. She further advised that her husband was engaged in work for the San Joaquin office, because he was attempting to injure the San Joaquin office.

Subsequent investigation by the San Joaquin office disclosed that the San Joaquin office was attempting to injure the San Joaquin office, because the San Joaquin office was attempting to injure the San Joaquin office.

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Press  
Releas

7-3482-7

## FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT Clark Gable

FILE NO. 9-41005

196- 36369-

Chase

93

1300 Liberty Street Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

750-125  
9-6

August 14, 1938

Federal Agent in Charge,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Sir:

An individual describing himself as [REDACTED], gave himself up to the Philadelphia Police Department, admitting time ago he was a threatening letter, to radio station, WCAU, to "Woolworth" c/o WCAU Station, Hollywood, California.

b7C  
[REDACTED] advised that this letter was deposited in a mail box at Tuckahoe, N. J. without a postage stamp on the morning of August 9, 1938.

[REDACTED] is apparently a "Post", it is believed that he may have written such a letter and that this letter refers, in the future, to reference to the Bureau for information. It is therefore suggested that inquiries be made at the dead letter office of the Newark Post Office to determine whether this letter has been forwarded.

Very truly yours,

A. R. LECKIE  
Federal Agent in Charge

SEARCHED  
INDEXED

9-4005-1

12 1938

Bureau, New Jersey  
September 7, 1938

JFB  
S-1??

Special Agent in Charge  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

b7C  
Reference is made to your letter of August 28, 1938, in which you advise that one [REDACTED] [REDACTED], gave himself up to the Pennsylvania Police Department and admitted that he had written a threatening letter to ZELMA GABLE in care of the R. C. W. STUDIOS, Hollywood, California, demanding \$3000.00; that this letter was mailed to BRENTWOOD, CALIFORNIA, without a postage stamp, on the morning of August 7, 1938.

b7X  
On August 27, 1938, Special Agent [REDACTED] of this office, interviewed [REDACTED] [REDACTED], who is in charge of the "mail" letter section of the Post Office in Trenton. He recalls mailing the above letter two or three days previous to the interview. He recalled that the letter was addressed to CLIFF GABLE, and bore no stamp nor return address. On the back of the envelope was the statement, "This is a blackmail letter." The letter itself was written in a cursive hand and bore a simple statement demanding \$3000.00 and said that a payoff spot would be designated later on. He further claims no money was ever due in the Post Office and considers removing that someone was trying to get some money from CLIFF GABLE. He definitely recalled that the letter contained no threats of any kind and was unsigned. Since there were no initials in the letter, he destroyed it.

Since there appears to be no violation over which the Bureau has jurisdiction, this matter is being forwarded directly to the Post Office.

-4005-7X

RECORDED

Very truly yours,

SERIALIZED

Sep 12 1938

A. P. GREEN,  
Special Agent in Charge.

WASH. D. C. 20535  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMERCIAL WIRELESS

SEP 10 1936

TELETYPE

*Clayton*

FBI INDIANAPOLIS 9-10-36 1-40 PM E.L.A.

DIRECTOR

b7C [REDACTED] CLARK GABLE VICTIM, EXTORTION.  
SUBJECT IN CUSTODY INDIANAPOLIS PD AS VAGRANT ADVISES THAT ON AUGUST THIRTIETH LAST HE SENT NOTE ON GOVERNMENT POSTCARD TO CLARK GABLE CARE MGM STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA DEMANDING PAYMENT OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS UNDER IMPLIED THREAT OF BODILY HARM SIGNED BLACK HAND. CARD SENT FROM DOYLESTOWN OHIO. LOS ANGELES REQUESTED BY TELETYPE TO VERIFY

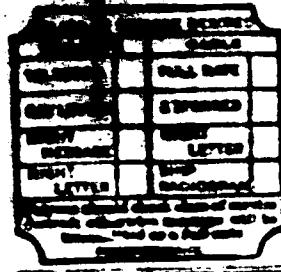
REINECKE

END

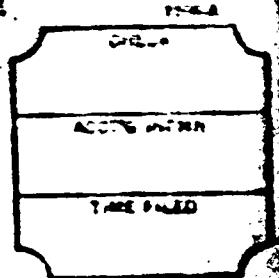
ON FBI WASHINGTON DC CN

9-4005-2

SEP 11 1936



# WESTERN UNION



Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to:

Los Angeles, Calif.  
September 10, 1938.

U. S. ATTORNEY  
FBI  
323 FEDERAL BLDG.  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

b7C [REDACTED] IN SIGHTLESS POSTCARD APPARENTLY DID NOT COME TO ATTENTION  
[REDACTED] WITH OFFICIALS HERE MAKING FURTHER CHECK UNABLE ADVISE UNTIL MONDAY

MAISON

OPT. REG. GOVT. RATE  
JUL 12  
cc: Bureau

9-4005-3

SEP 16 1938 4 M

UNR

STANDARD FORM NO. 104  
MAY 1940  
U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1940 12-1000

**TELEGRAM**  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
CHARGE FOX, 610 S SPRING BUILDING  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 12, 1938 11:50 AM  
TELEGRAM VIA POSTAL TELEGRAPH

U. S. DEPARTMENT  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
350 FEDERAL BUILDING  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND

b7C [REDACTED] TO INSPECTOR WEAVER FILE RECORD RECEIPT POSTCARD

MEMO. TO INSPECTOR WEAVER REQUEST CONTACT WITH PD INSPECTOR IN CHARGE  
CINCINNATI CLEO. SUGGEST YOU DO THIS IF NOT ALREADY DONE

HANSON

9-4005-

SEP. 16 1938

MOSCOW, U.S.S.R.  
September 14, 1970

Diplomatic Agent in Charge,  
Consulate General, Moscow.

b7C

REPRODUCIBLE - VIETNAM.

RE: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

b7C

RE: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2005-18264 P.M.

RE: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Q6

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype Message to: LOS ANGELES

TELETYPE NUMBER 9-10-24 1000 PM EST  
225 LOS ANGELES

b7c  
~~RE: Homicide of John GALT, male victim, deceased.~~  
~~NOTIFY BY TELETYPE OF HOMICIDE OF JOHN GALT TO ALL FEDERAL AGENTS IN~~  
~~THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS THAT THE BODY OF JOHN GALT, AKA JOHN~~  
~~GALT, SON OF JOHN GALT, RESIDENT OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA,~~  
~~WAS FOUND DEAD AS SHOWN ABOVE DATE TO BE GIVEN BY TELETYPE~~  
~~SHOULD BE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DATE OF DEATH WAS UNKNOWN OR~~  
~~UNKNOWN. DATE UNKNOWN WHETHER VICTIM WAS KILLED OR~~  
~~MURDERED. PLACE UNKNOWN WHETHER VICTIM WAS KILLED OR~~  
~~MURDERED. UNKNOWN WHETHER VICTIM WAS MURDERED OR KILLED.~~  
~~DO NOT FORGET TO CALL TELETYPE NUMBER 9-10-24 AND REQUEST TELETYPE~~  
~~NUMBER 9-10-24 OFFICE OF FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.~~

DEPT OF JUSTICE

9-4005

100-10000

Special Agent in Charge  
FBI - Cleveland  
Memorandum  
September 18, 1936

AM 8:15

Special Agent in Charge  
Cincinnati, Ohio

b7c

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], Victim

Dear Sir:

The above-named subject who is in custody at the Indianapolis, Indiana, police department on a charge of robbery, has advised that on August 26, 1936, he went to California. He carried with him, some of his clothes, Hollywood, certain notes to Cesar Costa, one of his aliases, Hollywood, California, amounting \$10,000 to be paid at the River Park, California, sometime after the note was given by further letter. This note was left on a date to be given by further letter. This note was sent via a Government postal card and was allegedly mailed by subject from Indianapolis, Ohio. It was signed "Black Hand," and just prior to subject's confinement a postcard bearing of the signature of the Black Hand on the lower part of the card.

Subject has given specimens of his handwriting. Please see writing he used in the ransom note as he may write the writing he used in the ransom note as he may write it again. It is to be noted from the specimen given by subject to you that the writing is as follows:

"I would like you know what he need for you.  
you will do me I day. You will get \$10,000 in small  
bills, which not been count, and do not notify the  
police because I will be returning them back as at  
your house. After I will give further instructions."  
Signed: Black Hand

INTER

Transcription of the material covered by the last two pages of the memorandum as dictated by the Special Agent in Charge, Cincinnati, Ohio, on September 18, 1936, to the Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., is as follows:

FBI, Indianapolis, Ind.

September 18, 1938

whether such a card has come to his attention, and if so,  
concerning its present whereabouts. Please do this and return  
this office by return mail or the wire or cablegram as soon  
as you charge it Indianapolis, Indiana, is set for September  
22, 1938, at which time the Indianapolis police department  
will be set to release.

The Cleveland post office is requested to inquire of  
the postmaster at Maywood, Ohio, from whom it is  
believed the card was allegedly mailed on August 30, 1938, to  
determine whether this card came to his attention, and if  
so, whether because of the nature of the message he gave the  
card directly to any particular post office inspector. If  
so, the Cleveland office should set back to determine  
the present location of this card.

The Cleveland office is also requested to notify  
the Indianapolis office by return mail of the results of  
inquiries in this connection.

Very truly yours,

Frank E. Tamm  
Special Agent in Charge

cc: Bureau  
Director (W.M.A.)

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
September 12, 1938

Special Agent in Charge,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

*b7C*  
No. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] - [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your telegram of September 10th, 1938, concerning the above-named subject who was reported to be in custody of the Indianapolis, Indiana, Police Department, and who had committed mail larceny by mailing to [REDACTED] a package from Indianapolis, Indiana, in which he claimed the sum of \$12,000.00.

Immediately upon receipt of your telegram, communication was had with [REDACTED] of the Legal Department of the [REDACTED] Indianapolis, Indiana, who has been associated with the administration of the subject and his associates since their first apprehension in the [REDACTED] State. It was stated that it had not been done by the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that it had not been done by the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised an inquiry to be made in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] to compare the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised. Several hours later, [REDACTED] came to see [REDACTED] and advised that he had not yet been able to get in touch with [REDACTED] and that he would do so as soon as possible.

In view of the above, [REDACTED] has been unable to furnish any information concerning the subject up to the present time. [REDACTED] advised that he would do all he could to obtain the necessary information and that he would be in touch with [REDACTED] as soon as possible. [REDACTED] advised that he would do all he could to obtain the necessary information and that he would be in touch with [REDACTED] as soon as possible. [REDACTED] advised that he would do all he could to obtain the necessary information and that he would be in touch with [REDACTED] as soon as possible.

[REDACTED] advised that in his opinion this package had never been handled by [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]

9-400

Special Agent in Charge,  
Indianapolis.

-2-

September 12, 1938

On September 12, 1938 it was possible to contact [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Clerk of Police at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studio, who [REDACTED] stated that he had not heard anything on this postcard and he felt that if it had been received at the Studio it would have come to either his attention or the attention of the Legal Department.

[REDACTED] also stated that it was very unlikely that this postcard would have come to the attention of the Victim, CHARLES GABLE, who, he stated, is out of the city at this time. [REDACTED] also said that he is certain that if Mr. GABLE had received the card he would immediately have called [REDACTED] about the matter. [REDACTED] stated that upon Mr. GABLE's return to the city he would ascertain if Mr. GABLE knew anything about the card.

Considering that since the postcard address had been written on an addressed postcard, it might have come to the attention of the Post Office Inspector in Los Angeles, I communicated with Mr. Fred C. Lippman, Inspector in Los Angeles, who stated that he had heard nothing from Post Office Inspector [REDACTED] who stated that he had heard nothing of the card. He said that since it is customary for the mail carriers and postal clerks to send all postcards, they were then likely to be and were position of it. If they had noticed a card of this kind with a black band on it, and that it was possible that some postal employee in this office had removed it from the mail and forwarded it to the Post Office Inspector in Ohio. For this reason, in my telegram to you dated September 12th, 1938, I suggested that you make inquiry of the State Post Office Inspector in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Very truly yours,

J. E. BREWER,  
Special Agent in Charge.

cc: Bureau ✓

AIR MAIL - URGENT

Cleveland, Ohio

September 15, 1936

Special Agent in Charge  
Indianapolis, Indiana

b7C Re: CLARK GABLE, Victim, Extortion

Dear Sir:

b7C Reference is made to letter of the Indianapolis office dated September 15, 1936. Postmaster of the Indianapolis, Indiana Post Office telephonically advised this office that he had checked with all of his employees and that neither he nor they have ever noticed a post card being sent through that office addressed to CLARK GABLE and stamped "Black Hand."

In view of the above information this matter is being considered referred upon completion to the office of articulate.

Very truly yours,

AL BOONE  
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED  
S-214  
AMARO  
cc Bureau  
Gambino

9 - 4005

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
This case originated at Indianapolis, Indiana.

File No. 1

OFFICE WHERE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	CHARACTER OF CASE
Indianapolis, Indiana	10-3-38	10, 11, 12, 13, 14	[REDACTED] b7C

CLARK GABLE, Victim.

**Summons or Notice.** Subject arrested on warrant by the Indiana State, Indianapolis police department on 8-16-38. He avows that on 8-18-38 he sent a note on a plain Government postcard to CLARK GABLE, care of H.C.W. Studio, Hollywood, Calif., demanding payment of \$10,000 under an implied threat of bodily harm if the demand should not be met. The card, mailed from Doylestown, Ohio, was, according to subject, signed "Black Hand," and contained a drawing of subject's left hand in the lower portion of the card. Los Angeles office advises unable to find any record of receipt of aforesaid card. Separate containing post office inspectors, Cincinnati, Ohio, [REDACTED], vaguely, trial set Indianapolis, Ind., for 8-28-38. Indianapolis office subsequently advised by Cleveland and Cincinnati field divisions that investigation their districts failed to locate aforesaid postal card. Indianapolis office notified of failure to locate card. [REDACTED] picked up by Terre Haute, Ind., police evening 8-27-38, claiming to have been injured by two men who shot his right eye and upon made statement that he had sent ex parte letter to CLARK GABLE.

b7C

In re [REDACTED] investigation predicated upon a telephone communication from Detective Sergeant [REDACTED] of the Indianapolis police department, who called special agent in charge, Indianapolis on September 10, 1938, and advised that the

- 5 Bureau  
 2 Los Angeles (1 Ind.)  
 3 Cleveland (1 Ind.)  
 4 Cincinnati  
 1 Indianapolis

9 OCT 9 - 1938  
 FBI - CINCINNATI  
 CINCINNATI

Police Department. It was during the [REDACTED] time, when he had admitted to Detective Sergeant [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he had written a letter to Maxine G. [REDACTED], care of [REDACTED] Studios, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

The writer proceeded to the Indianapolis, Indiana, police court, where he interviewed Detective Sergeant [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], both of whom are attached to the homicide division of the Indianapolis, Indiana, police department. Mr. McCARTY advised that during the early morning hours of September 1, 1934, he was taken into custody by officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of the Indianapolis, Indiana, police department when they found him lying on the sidewalk just below the city armory on Indianapolis, Indiana, having a bump on his head and a swollen right fist. [REDACTED] explained that subject had informed the officers that he had been given a ride to Indianapolis from Cincinnati, Ohio, and had apparently been hit on the head, robbed, and thrown from the car by the two men who had given a ride to subject at Cincinnati, Ohio. According to [REDACTED], subject claimed not to have known exactly who did happen to him, but stated that one of the persons who had given him a ride had been riding in the back of the car while the second man did the driving, and that apparently he, subject, had been slugged from the rear. [REDACTED] stated that subject somewhat altered the description of a suspect in a holdup in Indianapolis, and that for this reason the officers of the Indianapolis police department had taken subject into custody and booked him as a vagrant after failing to get an identification in the robbery in question.

[REDACTED] continued that in questioning subject about his past whereabouts and criminal activities, subject had admitted to them that on August 30, 1934, he had sent an extortion note to CLARK GABLE, care of W. C. H. Studios, Hollywood, California, which note was mailed from Dayton, Ohio, and demanded the sum of \$10,000.

[REDACTED] further advised that because of this admissibility he had arranged to have subject's fugitive status confirmed until September 24, 1934, and had subject placed under \$1,000 bond. He is presently confined in the Marion County, Indiana, jail in lieu of bond.

The writer further advised [REDACTED] in the presence of Detective Sergeants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that at this time subject gave the following written statement which is being retained in the files of the Indianapolis office at the present time:

Indianapolis, Indiana  
September [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also known as [REDACTED] freely and voluntarily,

b7C

and the full time statement is [REDACTED] I have nothing to say but I do not know what's statement, etc. that anything. say [REDACTED] that I do not have to make a statement. No promises or threats were ever made to me to make a statement.

I am 24 years of age, having been born April 14, 1908, at [REDACTED] New York. I was born at the above town of Rochester, New York, which years with the exception of the time I ran away from home, which was probably 1926, I have been at home for most part of the year after April 14, 1908, upon which date I was born. I was born there where I worked on a farm operating a family farm until the early part of May, 1926.

I left home again on July 14, 1928, intending to hitch-hike to California. I was picked up by State Police at New Ulm, Minn., on the same date, and was sentenced to 31 days at the County Workhouse at New Ulm, Minn., on a charge of vagrancy. I was released after 27 days, and finally arrived at Barberville, Ohio on August 27, 1928. At this city I fainted on the highway and was taken to the Citizen's Hospital, where I stayed until August 30, 1928.

b7C

While I was in the hospital I met a man named [REDACTED] or the Acoster Rd. N. Barberville, Ohio. He was released the day before I was. After I was released I went to visit him at his home. While I was there he gave me a card issued by the U. S. Government and told me I could write home on it, and tell the family I was coming back to California -- he having the impression I lived there.

While I had been in the hospital I had been reading Detective magazines and I had also seen CLARK GABLE's picture in a movie magazine, which I believe to be the Screen Guide. I had at this time conceived the idea of sending CLARK GABLE a letter or note commanding the sum of \$10,000.

When I got this postcard from [REDACTED] his young son (son unknown to me was present) while I was in his bedroom on August 30, 1928 -- and in his presence and that of a boy about 16 or 17 years of age I wrote a note on the back of this card which -- so near as I can recall read as follows:

"If you know what is given for you, then give me \$10,000. You will get \$10,000. in small bills otherwise not taken now. I will meet you at the Green Party. Do not notify the Police because I will be watching for them. I will send you another letter & you must day to be at the Green Party  
Signed: Max Band"

b7c

I left the home of [REDACTED] at approximately 10:00 P.M., Indiana time, on the night of June 1, 1934, and took a bus to Indianapolis, Indiana, arriving there about 11:30 P.M. I then took the train down the "Hoosier Trail", which I had taken before, to Elkhart, Indiana, where I met Mr. CLINT CABLE, a man whom I had known in Hollywood, California, the back of which I had traced the imprint of my left hand upon it in the U. S. Government mail room in Los Angeles, California, and who was then returning to California, having written me from time to time after.

[REDACTED]  
I believe that I stopped at Indianapolis, Indiana, to see a friend [REDACTED] at oil heat brand St. -- Ethyl, [REDACTED] for a few hours. I then came to Cincinnati, Ohio, stopping off on the way looking for work.

I was taken into custody on the morning of [REDACTED] by two officers of the Indianapolis Police Department who found me on the highway. I have never been arrested in my life except for vagrancy.

I have today identified by initials w. specimens of handwriting on government footcards which I have written, using the name as I can remember the wording used on the card I sent to Mr. CLINT CABLE for Indianapolis, Ohio on August 30, 1934.

The above is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

b7c  
SAC, [REDACTED]

Witnessed:

[REDACTED]  
Special Agent,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
323 Federal Bldg.,  
Indianapolis, Indiana

[REDACTED]  
Detective Sergeant  
Indianapolis, Ind. Police Department  
37 S. Alabama St.  
Indianapolis, Ind.

[REDACTED]  
Detective Sergeant  
Indianapolis, Ind. Police Department  
37 Alabama St.  
Indianapolis, Ind.

It should be noted here that the subject stated he was born in [redacted] and that he had been married there. He also stated that he had been to Los Angeles and had been there for a short time. The records of the Indianapolis police department show that he was born in [redacted].

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b7C  
It should be noted that the subject stated that he was born in [redacted] and that he had been married there. He also stated that he was born in [redacted] and that he had been married there. The records of the Indianapolis police department show that he was born in [redacted] and that he had been married there.

b7C  
Yes, it is the fact that subject was questioned at length, he stated that his story of sending this extortion note is not wholly a hoax, and that he actually did send the note from [redacted], Ohio, when questioned as to his motive for [redacted] officer. As far as his implication in this case, he stated that it had bothered his conscience and he decided to inform the police while he was being questioned.

From records in the Indianapolis, Indiana, police department, from observation and free interrogation, the following description of subject was obtained:

Age:	24
Nativity:	New York City
Residence:	7426 Jamaica Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Height:	5' 10"
Weight:	169
Build:	Medium
Social pastimes:	Pointed
Hobbies:	None
Hair:	Red
Eyes:	Chestnut brown
Teeth:	Poor

Speech  
Society

Speech  
Education  
Accusations  
Relatives

b7C

Police numbers  
original - 100.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Hancock, New York  
Indianapolis, Indiana, ID-381.  
Arrested arrests for vagrancy at Indianapolis,  
Indiana, on November 1, 1934, and held  
1438. Released both pieces.  
Arrested and arrested for vagrancy at  
New Brunswick, New Jersey, held  
of 30-day term, sentenced 11-29-34 to  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania, at 103, for  
vagrancy, 18 days.

b7C Detective Sergeant [REDACTED] gave the writer four photographs  
of subject, one of which is being transmitted to Cleveland for pos-  
sible future use, encase in Los Angeles for possible future use.  
Two are being retained in the Indianapolis file.

The criminal record of subject is L-181, requested from  
the Bureau.

Inasmuch as investigation to date has failed to establish  
the authenticity of the original extortion note, no leads were taken  
out for the Cleveland field division at Barberville, Ohio, at  
this time.

On September 10, 1935, the Bureau and Los Angeles field  
division were notified by teletype of the advisories of Indianapolis  
and the Los Angeles field division was requested to verify the non-  
receipt of the above postal card there. The Los Angeles field division  
advised the Indianapolis field division that the post office and  
at Los Angeles, California, had no record contact with the post  
inspector in charge at Indianapolis, Indiana, to indicate if the  
note had come to his attention in any manner and to determine the  
present whereabouts of the note if it actually exist.

A special delivery letter was transmitted to the Cleveland  
field division on September 18, 1935, requesting that field division  
to contact the post office inspector in charge in that city to  
this note, and a carbon copy of the letter was transmitted to the  
Cleveland field division requesting that division to contact  
postmaster at Doylestown, Ohio, to determine whether such a

had been to the city, and because of the difficulty of tracing the mail to be determined whether or not it could be traced, and if so, to be advised as to the location of the same and the name of the post office containing such mail.

b7C  
On September 16, 1938, the Indianapolis office was advised by telephone by Bureau agents.

The Indianapolis field division was advised by letter dated September 16, 1938, from the Cincinnati field division dated September 16, 1938, that investigation in its district had failed to locate the postal card allegedly sent by subject to victim.

The Cleveland field division reported to the Indianapolis field division by letter dated September 17, 1938, that the postmaster at Mayfield, Ohio, had telephonically advised the Cleveland division that a check of all his mail boxes had failed to indicate that any of them had noticed a postal card being sent through the post office addressed to Clark, Ohio and containing the message that the subject states he wrote to Mr. GRIFFIN from Mayfield, Ohio.

b7C  
On September 18, 1938, the writer telephonically advised Detective Sergeant [REDACTED] of the Indianapolis, Indiana, police department, that investigation had failed to establish that subject actually mailed a card to Mr. CLARK GRIFFIN demanding \$10,000.00 as subject has alleged.

A letter dated September 26, 1938, has been received from the Indianapolis office from Chief of Police [REDACTED] Terre Haute, Indiana, which states that on the evening of September 22, 1938, about 9:30 P.M., the Terre Haute police department received a call that there was a man lying along the side of the pavement on Highway U.S. 40, a short distance east of the city. When the officers found this man, he gave the name of [REDACTED]. He claimed to have been injured by two men with whom he had quarreled earlier. He later, however, denied this. He renewed his statement to the officers, however, that he was last seen in Terre Haute about 10:30 P.M.

b7C  
LAZARUS: One photograph of [REDACTED]  
TO CLEVELAND: One photograph of [REDACTED]  
TO LOS ANGELES: One photograph of [REDACTED]

4100M

WASH. D.C., OCT. 22, 1938

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

b7C

ALL

RE: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated October 3, 1938, at Indianapolis, Indiana, concerning information that [REDACTED] has advised that he sent through the mail an extortion note to Clark Gable on August 30, 1938, although subsequent investigation failed to reveal any trace of such message. It is noted from reference report that handwriting specimen was obtained from [REDACTED], such being now retained in the Indianapolis Division file with regard to this matter.

b7C You are advised that an individual giving the name of [REDACTED] previously reported to the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Police Department that he mailed an extortion note to Clark Gable at Greentown, New Jersey, on August 9, 1938, which auto license could not be located.

In view of the above circumstances, the Bureau desires that the handwriting specimens obtained by you be furnished to the Philadelphia Technical Laboratory for appropriate analysis through the usual channels. Extortion writing maintained on file, whenever so held, will be available for identification with regard to additional messages if they affect the identification of Zelzer as yet unidentified. It is also desired that if Zelzer is not available he be reinterviewed at which time appropriate handwriting specimens should be secured from him in both upper and lower case letters for comparison with the specimens obtained from [REDACTED]. This matter is under investigation.

MAILED

Very truly yours,

OCT 22 1938  
FBI - WASH. D.C.  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Indianapolis, Indiana

MEMO  
S-117

October 8, 1938

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

b7C  
Re:

CLAY GABLE, Victim.  
EXHIBIT

Dear Sir:

Kindly furnish the known criminal record of the following:

Name (inc. Aliases)	City, Police Arrest, or Other Number.	Approximate date Fin- gerprints forwarded Federal Bureau of In- vestigation.	Fingerprint Classification.

AT Indianapolis, Ind.

6-10-38

b7C

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED  
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

Very truly yours,

Sherry P. [Signature]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Mr. File # 9-4165-4 Washington, D. C. October 18, 1939  
RECORDED

The following is a copy of the pertinent record appearing in the file of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning number FB.I. 9-4165-4, which number should be quoted in future correspondence including telegrams addressed to this office.

File number.

(b)(7)

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover, Director

SEARCHED	SERIALIZED	INDEXED	FILED	RECORDED
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted] Captain G. P. Tolson Director, G. P.	[Redacted]	[Redacted] 11-23-39 FBI and ordered to leave town	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted] Mr. Asst Director, G. P.	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted] Mr. Special Agent, FBI	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted] Miss, West Branch, U.S.	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

b7C

86281

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

Case: b7C

Number: 9-4800-5

CLARK GABLE, Victim  
EXHIBITION

Specimens:

b7C  
S-4800-5 # 1 Brown handwriting of [REDACTED] consisting of handwriting  
on five postal cards.

Examination requested by: Indianapolis

Date received: 10/27/38 (Received 10/28/38 at 9:00 P.M.)

Examination requested: Documents

Result of examination:

Examination by: [REDACTED]  
b7C

Note: Bureau letter of October 22, 1938 requested that [REDACTED] handwriting  
be furnished to the Bureau's Technical Laboratory for appropriate search  
through the enormous exhibition file.

(R.)

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Indianapolis, Indiana

W.H.C.M.J.  
9-117

October 24, 1938

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

b7C

24. \_\_\_\_\_, with  
alias,  
CLARK GABLE, Victim.  
EXTORTION.

Dear Sir:

As requested in Bureau letter of October 22, 1938 (9-4005) there are inclosed specimens of the handwriting of subject \_\_\_\_\_ which comprise three government postal cards.

b7C

It is believed that \_\_\_\_\_ is no longer in service in this division and, therefore, is probably no longer available for further experiments, but the Terre Haute, Indiana, police department, is being communicated with on this subject and the Bureau will be

truly yours,

*Harold F. Kinney*  
Harold F. Kinney  
Special Agent in Charge

9-4005-5

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE - FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Indianapolis, Indiana

WHT:KJR  
9-117

October 28, 1938

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

b7C Re: [REDACTED] with  
alias; CLARK GAILE, Victim.  
EXTORITION.

Dear Sir:

Further reference is made to Bureau letter  
of October 22, 1938 (9-4805) and my reply thereto  
of October 25, 1938, which transmitted handwriting  
specimens of subject [REDACTED].

b7C I am now in receipt of a communication  
from [REDACTED], chief of detectives,  
St. Paul, Minnesota, where [REDACTED] was last known  
to be in custody, which states that he was released  
October 25, 1938, and it is believed that he has  
left the state.

I do not know the circumstances as further hand-  
writing specimens are available at this time and the  
matter has been referred please to the Indianapolis  
office.

Very truly yours,

John T. Rutherford

Acting Director of the Bureau

10/28/38 - 6

~~SECRET~~  
December 9, 1968

~~SECRET~~  
Special Agents in Charge  
Washington, D.C.

b7C

~~SECRET~~ with others  
200000 - V. 100000

~~SECRET~~  
Dear Sirs:

On November 20, 1968, I was the lead author of a report concerning the effectiveness of National programs to prevent child abuse and neglect. This report was submitted to your office by the National Center for the Prevention and Control of Child Abuse and Neglect.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEARCHED

Laboratory Report

November 9, 1936 Number: [redacted]  
[redacted] Clerk Office - [redacted]

b7C Pending investigation.

Specimen: [redacted] consisting of [redacted] consisting of  
[redacted] on [redacted] metal cards.

Specimen received by: [redacted]

Date received: 11/09/36

Specimen received:

Result of examination by: [redacted]

b7C

b7C

WILSON BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
TELETYPE

MAR 8 1939

TELETYPE

9-4215-8

FBI ST LOUIS

3-6-39 L 1-45 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DIRECTOR

SAC LOS ANGELES

RECORDED

L.A. 7

b7C INDEXED

b7C

CLARK

b7C OABLE. VICTIM. EXTORTION. [REDACTED] THIS OFFICE SAW [REDACTED] LOITERING IN CORRIDOR NEAR ST LOUIS BUREAU OFFICE, FOLLOWED HIM TO ELEVATOR INVITING HIM TO RETURN TO [REDACTED] ST LOUIS OFFICE AFTER BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH HIM WHERE HE FURNISHED INFORMATION TO EFFECT THAT HE AND OTHER SUBJECTS WHILE RESIDING AT THREE FIVE ONE NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, PLANNED TO OBTAIN FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM CLARK SABLE BY WRITING HIM THREATENING LETTER. [REDACTED] STATES [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] BROTHERS LEFT CHICAGO FOR LOS ANGELES TWO WEEKS AGO TODAY AND UPON ARRIVAL THERE WERE TO RESIDE AT NINE FIVE TWO JEFFERSON AVENUE, LOS ANGELES WHERE THEY WERE TO AWAIT RECEIPT OF TELEGRAM FROM [REDACTED] SENT FROM ST LOUIS AT WHICH TIME THEY WOULD KNOW HE HAD MAILED LETTER SENT FROM ST LOUIS AT WHICH TIME THEY WOULD KNOW HE HAD MAILED LETTER AT ONE PM MARCH 10 CLARK SABLE. [REDACTED] STATED HE MAILED THIS LETTER AT ONE PM MARCH 10 LAST AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, REGARDING FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, WHICH WAS TO FOLLOW UPON RECEIPT OF TELEGRAM FROM ST LOUIS THIS MORNING.

[REDACTED] STATED HE RECEIVED THIS LETTER THE MORNING AFTER RECEIPT OF TELEGRAM FROM ST LOUIS AND THAT HE IMMEDIATELY ARRIVED AT CHICAGO AND MAILED LETTER TO SABLE THE SUBSTANCES AS FOLLOWS: "ROUTE 2000 FROM SABLE, GONE TO NEW YORK CITY AND NOT BACK YET. CALIFORNIA, 2000 FEET, AND SO AS I GOT ON THE AIR MAIL IS GOOD FOR YOU. HOW HIGH DO YOU WANT IT? 2000 FEET, AND SO AS I GOT ON THE AIR MAIL IS GOOD FOR YOU."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Lester
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

RECORDED & INDEXED  
FBI MEMPHIS  
OCTOBER 1968

WLP 6 1968

TELETYPE

PAGE TWO

THE POLICE OR G MEN. YOU WILL RECEIVE LATER LETTER GIVING YOU MORE INSTRUCTIONS. SIGNED BLACK HAND UNQUOTE. [REDACTED] EXPLAINED THAT SIGNATURE WAS ALSO ACCOMPANIED BY DRAWING OF A BLACK HAND.

b7C

LOS ANGELES OFFICE  
INVESTIGATORS AND SECRETARIES WHO HANDLE  
MURKIN CASE. PLEASE FORWARD THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY RECEIVED.  
INVESTIGATORS HAVE BEEN MADE TO COLLECT MONEY FROM VARIOUS AND  
UNIDENTIFIED SOURCES. INVESTIGATION APPARENTLY ON SUBJECTS.  
ON COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATION SUBMIT FACTS TO FSA LOS ANGELES  
FOR OPINION AS TO PROSECUTION. FURNISH IMMEDIATE ADVICE AS TO  
WHETHER FSA LOS ANGELES AUTHORIZED PROSECUTION OF ZIEGLER, AMOUNT OF